20: Serjeant U-4 (no date) 1950 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

Cries for assistance have also their own fixed forms. Should anything happen to a man he shouts for help with the phrase Yā Labbaik, yā labbaik [19], known to the classical tongue. Let it also be remarked that labbaik is the normal interjection used when asking a word or phrase to be repeated, equivalent to plaît-il. The reply to such a call by those coming to the assistance of a man in trouble of danger of any sort is Yā marḥīb, yā marḥīb. When in distress the 'Awāmir tribe shout out 'Āmir, yā wulīd 'Āmir, to which the reply is Labbaik, yā labbaik. The 'Abīd in similar circumstances cry 'Īk, 'Īk, and those coming to their help reply with zāmils.

It seems that when one gives the tribal cry (ṣarkhah) amongst the tribes of Raidat al-Daiyin, the words Yā Ḥimyarāh are shouted [20].

R. B. SERJEANT.

[19] For an interesting use of labbaik see C. A. STOREY, *The Fākhir of al-Mufaḍḍal On Islama* (Leiden, 1915), p. 224.

[20] Al-Rābiṭat al-'Alawiyah, (Batavia, 1347 H.), I, p. 354.